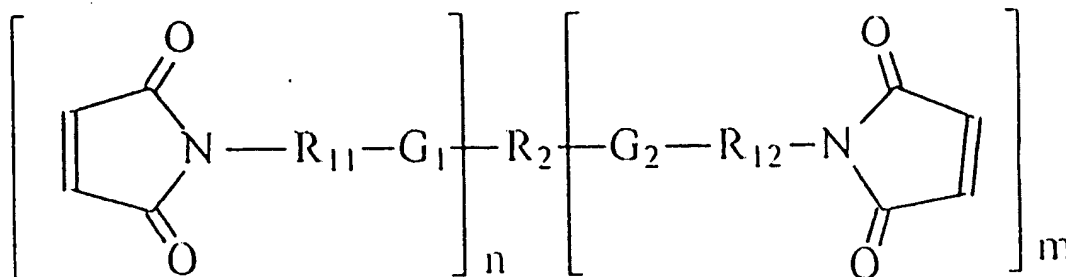


**What is Claimed:**

1. An actinic radiation curable printing ink or coating comprising an active single phase water compatible actinic radiation curable composition of a water compatible non-emulsion, non-dispersing compound water, and a maleimide derivative of the formula:



wherein n and m each independently represent an integer of 1 to 5, and the total of m and n is 6 or smaller;

R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> each independently represent a linking group selected from the group consisting of an alkylene group, an alicyclic group, an arylalkylene group, and a cycloalkylalkylene group;

G<sub>1</sub> and G<sub>2</sub> each represent an ester linkage selected from the group consisting of -COO and -OCO-;

and R<sub>2</sub> represents a linking chain having an average molecular weight of 100 to 100,000 selected from the group consisting of a (poly)ether or (poly)ester linking chain, in which at least one organic group consists of a group or groups selected from a straight or branched chain alkylene group, an alkylene group having a hydroxyl group, an alicyclic group, an aryl group, an arylalkylene group, and a cycloalkylalkylene group connected via at least one linkage selected from the group consisting of an ether or ester linkage.